

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING AND DRAFT NPDES PERMIT**

To discharge wastewater into navigable waters of the State

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 2010 – 11C – PH/RD
HEARING DATE: December 9, 2010

DATE OF NOTICE: November 9, 2010
RESPONSE DATE: December 27, 2010

Permit Information: MAJOR INDUSTRIAL NPDES RENEWAL

ARCELOMITTAL BURNS HARBOR, Permit No. IN0000175, PORTER COUNTY, 250 West Highway 12, Burns Harbor, IN 46304. This is the first public notice of the Arcelormittal Burns Harbor, LLC Facility draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The Arcelormittal Burns Harbor, LLC permit has been administratively extended since the permit's expiration date of August 31, 1993.

This industrial facility manufactures intermediate and final products that include coke, sinter, molten iron, raw steel, hot rolled strip, plate, cold rolled strip, and hot-dipped galvanized strip. Arcelormittal Burns Harbor, LLC has one point source discharge to the East Branch of the Little Calumet River consisting of process, sanitary, contact cooling, non-contact cooling and storm water, two point source discharges to the East Arm of Port of Indiana / Burns Harbor in Lake Michigan consisting of non-contact cooling water and storm water, and one point source discharge to Lake Michigan consisting of the backwash from the Nos. 1 and 2 Lake Water Pump Stations traveling screens in Porter County. A complete listing and description of the wastewater and discharge outfall points are detailed in the draft Permit and Fact Sheet.

Alternative Thermal Effluent Limitations (316a) for the Burns Harbor Facility

In accordance with 327 IAC 5-7 and Section 316(a) of the Clean Water Act, IDEM proposes to renew the alternate thermal effluent limitations applied to the discharges from Outfall 001 to the East Branch of the Little Calumet River and Outfall 002 to the East Arm of Port of Indiana / Burns Harbor in Lake Michigan:

The basis presented to Indiana and EPA for approving the alternate thermal effluent limits contained in the existing permit issued in 1988 is a demonstration that there is no prior appreciable harm to the aquatic life. Since the approval of alternative thermal effluent limits in the existing NPDES permit issued in 1988, there has not been any indication that the thermal component of the discharge from Outfall 001 is causing any adverse impacts on the aquatic life in the Little Calumet River downstream of Outfall 001 and there has not been any indication that the thermal component of the discharge from Outfall 002 is causing any adverse impacts on the aquatic life in the East Arm of Port of Indiana / Burns Harbor in Lake Michigan. Therefore, the alternate thermal effluent limits contained in the existing permit will be included in this proposed permit renewal in accordance with 5-7-4(c)(1)(A). Complete tables are included in the unmodified version on the website.

Variance from Technology Based Effluent Limitations (301(g)) for the Burns Harbor Facility

In November 1983, the owner and operator of the ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor facility, Bethlehem Steel, applied for a "waiver" from the BAT limitations contained in the ironmaking and sintering subcategories of 40 CFR 420. This application supplemented previous applications submitted in September 1978, and July 1982. On February 4, 1988, the United States Environmental Protection Agency granted a variance from the best available technology economically achievable requirements provided for by the federal NPDES permit requirements of the Clean Water Act pursuant to section 301(g). Through its NPDES permit renewal application, ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor, LLC has requested that the PMELs based on the 301(g) variance be continued.

IDEM has reviewed ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor's request for renewal of the PMELs for ammonia and Phenols based on the 301(g) variance PMELs issued in the NPDES permit effective on October 1, 1988 in the context of Indiana's currently applicable water quality standards and IDEM's procedures for conducting wasteload allocations. IDEM has tentatively approved the PMELs, subject to public review and comment on the proposed NPDES permit, because the PMELs will result in compliance with Indiana water quality standards and because all Section 301(g) conditions listed above will be met. U.S. EPA has concurred with IDEM's tentative approval to renew the 301(g) variance for the PMELs. The WQBELs for ammonia based on the current applicable water quality criteria are: 1.13 mg/l (1,291 pounds per day) as the monthly average and 1.7 mg/l (1,942 pounds per day) as the daily maximum. All of the PMELs are more stringent than the WQBELs for ammonia based on the current applicable water quality criteria.

Based upon this authorization the previous NPDES Permit, effective October 1, 1988, contained modified limitations for ammonia and phenol. Complete tables are included in the documents on IDEM's website.

Tentative Determination: On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of pertinent standards and regulations, IDEM proposes to issue the Renewal permit which imposes certain effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and special conditions. The permit term is no more than five years.

Hearing Information Hearing Information: IDEM has scheduled a Public Hearing concerning this Draft Permit for December 9, 2010, at 6 p.m. (local time), at the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, in the Auditorium, located at 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368. The purpose of the Hearing is to allow public participation in the determination of the terms and conditions of the NPDES permit. Interested parties should submit written or oral comments to the IDEM representatives at the time of the meeting.

Special Considerations

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations for this Hearing must contact the IDEM - ADA Coordinator at 100 N Senate Ave., Rm 1322N, (317) 233-4200, or via the Indiana Relay Service at 1-800-743-3333, at least 72 hours prior to the hearing.

Comment Period & Procedures for the Formulation of Final Determination

The proposed determination to issue an NPDES permit is tentative. Comments not submitted at the Public Hearing must be received/postmarked at IDEM no later than December 27, 2010 to be considered in the formulation of the Final Determination. Anyone wishing notification of the Final Determination on this permit must provide written contact information to IDEM staff at the Public Hearing or during the specified comment period. Notice of Final Permit action will not be made to persons who fail to comment on the Draft Permit or fail to request such notice. Deliver or mail all requests or comments to the address below:

IDEM - Office of Water Quality / Industrial NPDES Permits Section
Attention: Mr. Steve Roush - MC 65-42 IGCN Rm 1255
100 North Senate Avenue - Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251
(317) 233-5747

All email requests or comments should be sent to: sroush@idem.in.gov

Additional Information: All draft permit documents are available for review at the IDEM Central File Room, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room IGCN 1201, Indianapolis, IN, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., M-F. Copies are also available for review at the Porter County Health Dept; Porter County Public Library/Main Branch; IDEM's Northwest Regional Office; and on IDEM's Web site at www.idem.IN.gov/5338.htm. Please tell others you think might be interested in this matter.